

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Final Office Action. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's consideration of the Application. In order to advance prosecution of this Application, Applicants have responded to each notation by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Section 103 Rejection

The Examiner rejects Claims 1-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,699,310 to Garloff et al. ("*Garloff*") as modified by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons discussed below.

Applicants respectfully submit that *Garloff* as modified by the Examiner fails to disclose, teach, or suggest the elements of Applicant's claims. For example, *Garloff* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest the following elements recited in independent Claim 1:

- allocating the domain rules and the business rules to a plurality of use cases and realizing the use cases;
- assessing the domain rules and the business rules in accordance with the realization.

Garloff discloses checking integrity by reviewing syntax, legitimate object references, and legitimate values:

FIG. 6 shows the process for checking the integrity of the Developer's specifications. This process consists of:

- reviewing Methods for proper syntax and legitimate object references;
- reviewing Attribute Values for legitimate values, existing Required values, and legitimate object references; and
- other validations, as defined by the Knowledge Base.

Object references are deemed legitimate if (a) the object exists, (b) all Methods referred to exist (see discussion below with reference to FIG. 10 on finding a reference), and (c) the "Scope" of the object and/or Methods is appropriate for the reference. The "Scope" of an object determines how it can be used. Scope may be Self, Owner, Root, or Global. A scope of Self means that the object may only be referenced by the object itself or one of its Subobjects. A scope of Owner means that the object may be referenced as defined by Self as well as by the object that owns the referenced object. A scope of Root means that it may be referenced as defined by Owner and by any object that owns the referenced object, up through the Root object (Window, Business, DataManager, or Program). A scope of Global means that any other object may reference the object.

(*Garloff*, col. 9, line 66—col. 10, line 20.) That is, *Garloff* discloses checking integrity by reviewing syntax, legitimate object references, and legitimate values, but not by using use cases. Thus, *Garloff* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest the above elements of Claim 1.

For at least these reasons, independent Claims 1 and its dependent claims are allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 103. For analogous reasons, independent Claims 7, 13, 19-21, 25, 29, 33, and 34 and their respective dependent claims are allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims

CONCLUSION

Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all the pending claims.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance prosecution of this case in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact Keiko Ichiye, the Attorney for Applicants, at the Examiner's convenience at (214) 953-6494.

Although Applicants believe no fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

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